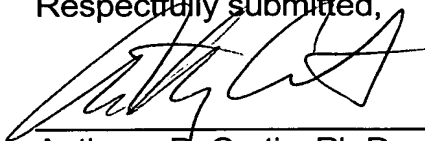


## REMARKS

Applicants have rewritten Claims 1-18. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. The claims have been rewritten for grammatical purposes only to comply with US requirements. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Anthony F. Curtis, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 46,193  
Agent for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
(312) 321-4200